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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 56733

Patentee Aasef Shafik  
Patent No. 5,971,141  
Issued October 26, 1999  
Application Ser. No. 09/052,175  
Filed March 31, 1998  
Title TOILET ACCESSORY KIT

**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF  
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c))**

Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

S I R:

Petitioner requests acceptance of the third and final maintenance fee due in this patent and-reinstatement of the patent.

The third and final maintenance fee payment in the amount of \$2,365 was submitted on December 28, 2011, along with a petition to accept delayed payment on the grounds that the delay was unavoidable, and the surcharge fee of \$700. That petition was dismissed. Those fees have not been refunded.

Petitioner is submitting herewith a petition on the grounds that delay was unintentional. Petitioner requests that the maintenance fee payment of \$2,365 previously submitted be accepted and that the unavoidable delay surcharge fee of \$700 previously paid be applied to the unintentional delay surcharge fee of \$1,640, leaving a surcharge balance due in the amount of \$940 for the current petition. Payment of \$940 is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis H. Lambert  
Petitioner and attorney for patentee

Enclosures: Form PTO/SB/66; check in amount of \$940.

03/01/2012 DALLEN 00000017 5971141

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940.00 OP

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**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF  
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378 (c))**

Docket Number (Optional)

56733

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Fax: (571) 273-8300



NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

Patent No. 5,971,141

Application Number 09/052,175

Issue Date October 26, 1999

Filing Date March 31, 1998

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

**Also complete the following information, if applicable**

The above – identified patent

☐

Is a reissue of original Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_ original issue date \_\_\_\_\_

original application number \_\_\_\_\_

original filing date \_\_\_\_\_

☐

resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international application \_\_\_\_\_

filed on \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.89(a))**

I hereby certify that this paper (\*along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

2012-02-23

Date

Signature

Dennis H. Lambert

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

## 1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

## 2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)

## 3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 ½ yr fee	(1551)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 ½ yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 ½ yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 ½ yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 ½ yr fee	(1553)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 ½ yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ 1640 (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 940

## 5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ 940

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

## 6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

**7. OVERPAYMENT**

As to any overpayment made please

OR

☐

Credit to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐

Send refund check


**WARNING:**

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

**8. STATEMENT**

The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

**9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) of Petitioner(s)

2012-02-23

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Dennis H. Lambert

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or printed name(s)

25017

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registration Number, if applicable

(703) 451-1227

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

7000 View Park Drive, Burke, VA 22015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

**ENCLOSURES**☐

Maintenance Fee Payment

☒

Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)

☒

SEE ATTACHED REQUEST FOR FEE ALLOCATION